



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 30 January 2012

5886/12

PI 10

WORKING DOCUMENT

From: General Secretariat
To: Delegations
Subject: Preparation of the 26th Session of the WIPO Standing Committee on the Law of
Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT)
(Geneva, 1 - 3 February 2012)
- Draft statement by the EU and its Member States

Delegations will find in the Annex a draft Statement for the WIPO Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT) from 1 - 3 February 2012.

=====

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE LAW OF TRADEMARKS, INDUSTRIAL
DESIGNS AND GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS**

26th Session (Geneva, 1 to 3 February 2012)

Draft statement by the EU and its Member States

on the Protection of Names of States
(SCT/25/4 and the proposal by Jamaica)

Mr. Chairman,

1. On behalf of the European Union and its Member States, we wish to thank the WIPO Secretariat for the working documents prepared so far in relation to protection of names of states (document SCT/24/6 – a final version of the Summary of the Replies to the Questionnaire Concerning the Protection of Names of States Against Registration and Use as Trademarks and document SCT/25/4 – a draft reference document on the protection of country names against registration and use as trade marks). Furthermore, we thank Jamaica's delegation [delegations of Barbados, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago] for its proposal concerning future work in this area.
2. The EU and its Member States take note of the interest of Jamaica continuing work on protection of names of states to strengthen understanding of the Committee in this respect. Nevertheless, we are of the view that this issue was sufficiently addressed during the last two sessions of this Committee. In particular, the summary of replies to the questionnaire and the reference document by the WIPO Secretariat provided the Committee with a useful and appropriate detailed overview of the current situation in this area.
3. The European Union and its Member States do not see a need for further work in relation to Names of States, such as a new questionnaire or survey on various aspects of this issue. Instead, the efforts of the Committee should focus on finalizing its work in the area of industrial designs with a view of convening a Diplomatic Conference for the adoption of a treaty on industrial design registration formalities and procedures as soon as possible.

Thank you Mr. Chairman